decontrolled fertilizers in the state is concerned it is dependent on market forces operating within the parameters of the concession scheme for decontrolled fertilizers.

Demand of Fertilizers in Assam

144. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total demand of fertilizer in Assam;

(b) what is the total supply of fertilizers in the State;

(c) whether there is any short supply of fertilizers to the State;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under price, distribution and movement control of Government of India. The demand is assessed only of urea and allocation made under the Essential Commodities Act. All other fertilizers are decontrolled. The availability of fertilizers has been satisfactory in the State and there have been no reports of shortages.

The demand and availability of major fertilizers namely, Urea, DAP & MOP in Assam during the year 1999-2000 has been as under:

('000 tonnes)

S. No.	Product	Season	Estimated demand	Avail-ability	Sales
1.	Urea	Kharif '99 (April-Sept)	60.00	90.82	70.05
		Rabi '99-2000 (Oct.-March)	65.00	53.97*	23.16*
2.	DAP**	Kharif '99	20.00	21.17	6.19
		Rabi '99-2000	15.00	17.58*	6.45*
3.	MOP**	Kharif '99	33.00	26.02	18.32
		Rabi '99-2000	45.00	32.04*	13.95*

*Availability and sales from 1st October '99 to 31st January 2000.

**The demand in respect of DAP & MOP is as projected by the State. This is not assessed demand.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

Basic Drugs Units in the Country

145. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the location of basic drug's units set up in the public sector in the country and their financial status at present;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to set up any new drug unit in the country;

(c) if so, the places identified therefor;

(d) whether there is a great scope for setting up drug units in Orissa;